## Remarks by Scott Hassett, Secretary Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Munich, Germany October 11, 2004

Stateminister Dr. Schnauppauf, distinguished guests and friends. On behalf of the Wisconsin delegation, I wish to thank the Bavarian State Government for hosting our group this week. We are grateful to your ministry for the considerable effort it has made to respond to our needs and to the numerous business and government parties that will spend time with us during our visit. I know that I can speak for all of us in the delegation in extending the hand of hospitality to visitors from Bavaria who wish to come to Wisconsin as we fulfill Phase Two of our partnership. We also understand the importance of business relationships as well as official state transactions.

As you have mentioned, the relationship between Bavaria and Wisconsin under Phase One of our working partnership produced concrete results that proved there were specific deeds behind our words. The most important deed, in my view, was the enactment of the Green Tier law which was modeled, in part, after your Bavaria Pact. Stateminister Dr. Schnappauf, your letter last year made proper note that both the Bavaria Pact and Green Tier are world recognized models of regulatory innovation. I am especially pleased that several of the key people in the development and passage of Green Tier are in this room today. I would like to recognize John Imes, Jim Klauser, Pat Stevens, Mark Williamson, John Torinus, Graham Wilson, Jeff Smoller, and especially Senator Neal Kedzie. Each helped in different ways as members of past delegations to Bavaria, members of our Green Tier committee or players in the enactment process.

The goals of this trip are clear and relate specifically to the implementation of Green Tier. We wish to better understand the cooperative and voluntary approach to impressive environmental and economic results that have been achieved through the Bavaria Pact. We also want to learn where remaining challenges face us both and where flexibility and cooperation can solve those problems and produce results. Representatives of each of the three business sectors in our delegation and the environmental representatives will be looking for those opportunities.

When our delegation returns to Wisconsin, I anticipate hearing about great ideas and consequential deeds that come from those ideas. Some of the people in this room have come up with the phrase "new green thinking" to describe this ambitious approach to environmental and economic performance. I am enthused about the great possibilities of this new approach and am eager to lend my support.

This trip will begin to build momentum toward a statewide awareness of the opportunities before us. The trip is being communicated on the Internet with daily briefings. Senator Kedzie and Professor Wilson are working together on two other projects that are a part of the three year Baldwin Fund Grant to increase the visibility of Green Tier and to learn from our pilot projects and other examples like Bavaria. There is a legislative bus trip of those pilot projects planned and the UW- Madison will hold an important workshop on January 31 that will discuss noteworthy environmental policy innovations and practices from around the world.

The challenge to combine environmental, economic and community goals is being met in Bavaria through the Bavaria Pact and your world-famous "laptops and lederhosen" strategy. Governor Doyle's policy to Grow Wisconsin has similar goals and so we have much in common. By heritage and history, Wisconsin and Bavaria can look to the past and celebrate the many things that brought us close together. By building new relationships through trans-Atlantic delegations, cooperation and agreements like the Phase Two Partnership, we will build and secure our future together and together show the world a better and more sustainable future. Thank you.